

3/8/77

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*Argentina*

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny  
Exemption(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full  
☐ Classify as \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Extend as \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Downgrade to \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. William J. Nottingham  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Division of Overseas Ministries  
P.O. Box 1986  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46291

Dear Mr. Nottingham:

Mr. Wilson has asked me to reply to your letter of January 31 concerning the plight of Miss Claudia Inez Peiro who was arrested in Argentina in May, 1976.

Our Argentine office here in the Department informs me that the Argentine Embassy in Washington reportedly advises its correspondents that Miss Peiro is being held under the provisions of the State of Siege, Decree 1207 of July 5, 1976. I am also told that your church has informed us that Miss Peiro's parents have been permitted to visit her, and that she apparently has not been physically mistreated.

The Department has followed this case very closely. We have discussed it with Argentine officials both here in Washington and in Buenos Aires. They are well aware of the concern for Miss Peiro's welfare which has been expressed by several members of Congress and many American citizens, and which is shared by the U.S. Government.

I assure you that we will continue to make known our concerns about human rights in Argentina and, in particular, about the case of Claudia Peiro.

Sincerely yours,

Moncrieff J. Spear  
Deputy Coordinator  
for Human Rights

80D177  
Box 4853